

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /123 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4850

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2325

E.O. 11652: CC

TAGS: PLOS, SU

SUBJECT: SUDAN VIEWS ON LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

REF: KHARTOUM 1596

1. DURING RECENT MEETING ON OTHER MATTER SUDAN ATTORNEY GENERAL HASSAN OMER COMMENTED ON CURRENT LAW OF SEA SESSION IN NEW YORK. HE HAS BEEN DEEPLY INVOLVED IN LOS MATTERS FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND LED SUDANGOV DELEGATION TO PRESENT SESSION (REFTEL).

2. OMER WAS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF LDCS WHO HE DESCRIBED AS DOMINATED BY RADICALS SUCH AS ALGERIA AND TANZANIA. HE CRITICIZED LACK OF SENSE OF URGENCY AMONG LDCS AND ALSO NOTED FEW DELEGATIONS HAD AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE. THUS, THEY WERE FROZEN INTO UNREALISTIC POSITIONS AND WHOLE CONFERENCE WAS HELD BACK. OMER, WHO PRAISED BOTH AMBASSADORS RICHARDSON AND EVENSEN, SAID IT WAS LDCS WHO WOULD SUFFER, UNLESS LOS AGREEMENT REACHED SOON.

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3. WE ASKED ABOUT LAW OF SEA IMPLICATIONS CURRENT SUDANGOV RED SEA POLICY. HE CONFIRMED SUDANGOV WISHES SEE RED SEA DEVELOP AS ZONE OF PEACE. ALTHOUGH TRADITIONAL INNOCENT PASSAGE REMAINS SUDANGOV POLICY, OMER BELIEVES RED SEA LITTORAL STATES, INCLUDING SUDAN, WILL WISH EVENTUALLY TO DEVELOP A POLICY OF

MILITARY PASSAGE WITH PERMISSION. HE INDICATED SUDANGOV MIGHT RAISE RED SEA ISSUE AT 32ND UNGA. DCM NOTED ANYTHING WHICH LIMITS TRADITIONAL INNOCENT PASSAGE FOR US SHIPS IN RED SEA WOULD CAUSE USG PROBLEMS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE OMER'S COMMENTS WERE SOMEWHAT GRATIFYING RE US ROLE AND POSITIONS AT LOS CONFERENCE, WE WERE DISAPPOINTED BY HIS CLAIM THAT SUDANGOV AND MODERATES GENERALLY WERE INCAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING OR EVEN INFLUENCING RADICALS. SIMILARLY, HE CRITICIZED OTHERS FOR NOT SENDING SUITABLY HIGH LEVEL REPS TO NEW YORK, BUT HE ARRIVED WEEK LATE AND LEFT AFTER THREE WEEKS. HOWEVER, HE HAS OTHER IMPORTANT DUTIES HERE, AND FELT HE WAS WASTING HIS TIME IN NEW YORK. SUSPECT THIS PROBLEM WITH MANY LDC DELS.
BERGUS

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Message Attributes

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